

FREIGHT HANDLERS DEMAND FAIR DEAL OR STRIKE

If the railroads of Chicago won't give their freight handlers a square deal, then they will have to endure a general strike of the handlers.

More than 1,000 union freight handlers met at Hodcarriers' hall last night and enthusiastically voted for a general strike this afternoon unless the railroads meet the demands of the union, which is only that representatives of the union be permitted to collect union dues from the men on company property at periods when the men are not working.

The Monon is the only road that has signed up with the union. About 6,000 freight handlers are in the union, union leaders say.

At an enthusiastic meeting held at 515 S. Halsted st. this morning the men reiterated their intention to call a general strike unless the railroads granted their demands, which involve neither shortening of hours nor an increase in wages.

Two hundred freight handlers of the Soo line joined the strike this morning and strike orders have been issued against the Lake Shore, St. Paul, Rock Island, Great Western and I. C. Orders against every other road will shortly follow unless demands are met.

That the roads regard the freight handlers' strike as a serious thing became evident to day when A. J. Earling, pres. of the St. Paul road, sent word from Washington that he was hurrying here to take personal charge of the situation for his road, while A. S. Smith, pres. of the New York Central lines, has a personal representative on the way here.

The Burlington road today imported 50 strikebreakers from Omaha.

DRYS WANT BILLY SUNDAY

Negotiations are now on between "dry" leaders and Billy Sunday to get the baseball preacher here as early as possible to fire the first guns in the war against liquor. The "drys"

want to get a referendum vote in Chicago in April, if possible, is the inside tip now given. Meanwhile the "wets" are lining up their forces to counteract the "drys."

The "wet" leaders accuse Mayor Thompson of aiding the Prohibitionists by the jam he's gotten into by the Sunday closing law. They say that all the talk of Sunday violations printed in the newspaper, particularly the Herald and Tribune, has disgusted a lot of temperate liberals, who may line up with the "drys." The United Societies, the liquor dealers and the brewers are busily preparing for the fight.

EASTERN RAILWAYS PREPARE FOR LONG STRIKE

New York, Aug. 30.—Eastern railroads are preparing for a long siege in event the general strike of the big four brotherhoods goes into effect Monday, as threatened.

It was learned today that cities, towns and country districts have been combed for mechanics, men who can serve as brakemen, conductors and yardmen, and even stationary engineers have been enlisted.

The entire office force of the New York Central—numbering upward of 4,000—may be used in various capacities.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION IS IMPOSSIBLE, SAYS CUMMINS

Washington, August 30.—Senator Cummins today in a senate speech denounced "so-called compulsory arbitration" as an impossibility. There is no power, he said, in which federal or state governments can force men to work when they do not want to. This, he said, would be the case under any actual compulsory arbitration law. The fifth and thirteenth amendments to the constitution, he said, would prevent operation of such proposed laws.

Peter Kribles, 3485 Archer av., lost \$400 to pickpockets.